## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:

$$O$$
 $CH_2)_m$ - $CCH_2)_r$ -S-Z

 $A$ - $CH_2)_{t+n}$ 

II

wherein

n is 1 or 2;

t is 0 or 1;

m is 0 and r is 1, or m is 1 and r is 0;

- A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: halo, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy; or cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl; or a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring having 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S and O and the heteroaromatic ring is covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula II by a ring carbon;
- Z is

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen; -NHCOOC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>; -NHCH<sub>3</sub>; or -NHCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>;

or when R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

- 2. The agent of claim 1, wherein A is cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or both of the ring carbons adjacent to the remainder of the compound of formula II are mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl.
- 3. The agent of claim 1, wherein A is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 groups selected from: fluoro, alkyl having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, perfluoromethyl, alkoxy having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, and perfluoromethoxy.
- 4. The biologically active agent of claim 3, wherein the agent is a compound of the formula:

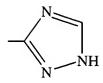
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wherein

m is 0 or 1;

r is 0 or 1;

Z is



- R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms;
- R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen; -NHCOOC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>; -NHCH<sub>3</sub>; or -NHCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>;
- R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen or halo;

or when R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

- 5. The agent of claim 4, wherein  $R^1$  is hydrogen or ethyl.
- 6. The agent of claim 5, wherein the compound is 3-(2-(4-(2,6-difluorobenzyloxy)phenyl)-2-oxoethyl)thio-1H-1,2,4-triazole.